

March 15, 2013

**VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Room TWA325  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Presentations  
WT Docket No. 12-69**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 13, 2013, Scott Wills, Paul Kolodzy, and I, representing Vulcan Wireless LLC (“Vulcan”), met with Louie Peraertz, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Clyburn, and Mr. Wills and I met with David Goldman, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Rosenworcel, to discuss issues related to the above-captioned proceeding.

During the meetings, the Vulcan representatives discussed their January 31, 2013 *ex parte* letter to the Commission,<sup>1</sup> highlighting the minimal costs of implementing an interoperability solution based on consultations with several engineering consultants, network engineers, and chipset consultants. They also noted the fallacy of AT&T’s “fall back” argument, noting that: (1) greenfield operators such as Vulcan have no legacy 2G or 3G systems and can source devices to support either or both GSM and CDMA technologies, and (2) the advent of multi-technology chipsets, such as Qualcomm’s recently announced RF 360, will benefit all Lower A Block licensees, regardless of which air interface technology they employ (including CDMA operators).

In response to questions, the Vulcan representatives reiterated their support for a range of alternative approaches to restoring interoperability in the Lower 700 MHz band. They also noted that transitioning to a unified band class, as opposed to a dual band-only solution, would present additional benefits. These benefits include ensuring that all Lower 700 MHz licensees will have equal access to the latest technology developments, eliminating the current disparity between the Band Class 12 and Band Class 17 ecosystems. A unified band class will eliminate this disparity and allow for greater technical innovation across the entire Lower 700 MHz band by reducing duplicative

---

<sup>1</sup> See *Ex Parte* Letter of Vulcan Wireless LLC to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 12-69 (filed Jan. 31, 2013).

efforts for these three small spectrum blocks. Indeed, the 3GPP standards-setting process (particularly the RF working group) has become increasingly bogged down from the sheer volume of requests stemming from new technology roll-outs and carrier aggregation (allowing asymmetric pairing of bands to enable greater downlink capacity). These requests are now being prioritized and scheduled in a manner that will likely cause Band Class 12 efforts and developments to always lag behind Band Class 17.

Finally, Vulcan addressed the problems stemming from the current uncertainty surrounding this issue, including the impact on Vulcan's ability to enter partnerships, choose technologies, and make critical business decisions. Without prompt action, A Block licensees such as Vulcan, who currently use Band Class 12, will be stalled in their network deployment efforts in addition to falling further behind in the global supply chain for the most advanced handsets and consumer devices.

Pursuant to Section 1.206(b) of the Commission's rules, I am filing this notice electronically in the above-referenced docket. Please contact me directly with any questions.

Respectfully submitted

*/s/ Michele C. Farquhar*

Michele C. Farquhar  
Counsel to Vulcan Wireless LLC

michele.farquhar@hoganlovells.com  
D 1+ 202 637 5663

cc: David Goldman  
Louie Peraertz